THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) Air Transport operators are free to charge fares fixed by them in their commercial judgement.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Harassment of Air Passengers

5938. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Naional Airports Authority has banned air passengers from alighting in taxis near airports;

(b) whether Government are aware that air passengers feel discriminated on being forced to alight at different points when they arrive by taxis or 3-wheelers at Delhi Airport;

(c) what steps are proposed to remove such unnecessary harassment to air passengers; and

(d) the measures proposed in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) No, Sir.

(b) At Indira Gandhi International Airport Delhi, the system of segregation of traffic by why of lanes for private cars, taxis/autorickshaws and coaches buses has been adopted for smooth flow of fast and slow moving vehicles as well as their proper parking to avoid congestion and cross traffic.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Development of Civil Avjation in Gujarat

5939. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the amount granted to Government of Gujarat for the development of Civil Aviation during the Eighth Five Year Plan till date, scheme-wise; and

(b) the details of the development works in this field for the State during the plan?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) No amount is granted by the Union Government to the State Government of Gujarat for development of civil aviation in the State.

(b) Upgradation of airport is a continuing process and is taken up in phased manner depending upon projected requirement and availability of resources. Airports Authority of India has plans to upgrade the airports at Ahmedabad, Bhavnagar, Bhuj, Portbandar, Jamnagar, Rajkot and Vadodara in Gujarat.

Pilot training schools and Institutes in the country

5940. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to open more Pilot training schools and Institutes for commercial pilots;

(b) the number of present Pilot training schools in the country;

(c) whether they will be upgraded to match increasing technical expertise required for flying modern planes; and

(d) the details of proposals to have a larger pool of trained manpower in aviation?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) No, Sir.

(b) A list is given at the Statement (*See* below).

(c) Training in Flying Clubs/Institutes is imported keeping in view the requirements laid down by the Director General of Civil Aviation for issue of commercial Pilots Licence. The respective airline imports training for flying modern aircraft which are on its fleet.